

means for appending the generated information to the prepared data;

means for displaying the prepared data and the input data in the appended condition of the generated information;

judging means for judging [that] whether the input data is [the one whether or not it is required for allowance for the use thereof] data requiring authorization for use; and

means for [forbidding] preventing the storage of the input data [in the case where it is the data required for allowance for the use], wherein said input data is judged to be data requiring authorization for use.

2. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

means for executing a cut [&] and paste function with respect to the input data; and

means for [forbidding] preventing the cut [&] and paste function with respect to the input data [in the case where] when the input data is [the one required for allowance for the use] data requiring authorization for use.

3. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said judging means includes means for judging [that] whether the input data is encrypted data [whether or not it] that can be decoded by a predetermined decoding key; and means for determining [that] whether the input data is [the one required for allowance for the use] data requiring authorization for use [in the case where] when the input data is [the] encrypted data.

4. (AMENDED) A data protection system for protecting data [required for allowance for the use] requiring authorization for use [to avoid the use without permission thereof in the case] against unauthorized use when the data is [worked] processed, comprising:

means for storing input data;

[working] processing means for applying [work] processing to the input data;

judging means for judging [that] whether the input data is [the one whether or not it is

required for allowance for the use thereof] data requiring authorization for use;

means for [forbidding] preventing the storage of the input data [in the case where it is the data required for allowance for the use] when said input data has been judged to be data requiring authorization for use; and

storage means for storing [data of work] process information indicating what kind of [working] processing has been [made] applied by said [working] processing means.

5. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said judging means includes means for judging [that] whether the input data is encrypted data [whether or not it] that can be decoded by a predetermined decoding key; and means for determining [that] whether the input data is [the one required for allowance for the use] data requiring authorization for use [in the case where] when the input data is [the] encrypted data.

6. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the [data of work] process information is differential data indicating a difference between the original input data to be [worked] processed and the data after having been [worked] processed.

7. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:
means for displaying the original input data to be [worked] processed and the [data of work] process information [in the condition wherein] where the [data of work] process information has been added to the original input data.

8. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said storage means includes means for adding information for specifying the original input data to be [worked] processed to the [data of work] process information; and means for storing the information thus added together[, with the data of work information].

9. (AMENDED) A data protection system for protecting data [required for allowance for the use] requiring authorization for use [to avoid the use without permission thereof] against unauthorized use [in the case] when the data is distributed to data [working] processing means from a center for permitting the use of the data, and the distributed data is [worked] processed in said data [working] processing means, comprising:

means for storing input data;

judging means for judging that the input data is [the one whether or not it is required for allowance for the use thereof] data requiring authorization for use;

means for [forbidding] preventing the storage of the input data [in the case where] when [it is the data required for allowance for the use] said input data has been judged to be data requiring authorization for use; and

storage means for storing [data of work] process information indicating what kind of [working] processing has been [made] applied by said data [working] processing means.

10. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
means for distributing the [data of work] process information from said center as [the one required for allowance for the use thereof] data requiring authorization for use.

11. (AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:
means for distributing the data prepared by adding the [data of work] process information to the original data to be [worked] processed from said center as [the one required for allowance for the use thereof] data requiring authorization for use.

12. (AMENDED) A data preparation device wherein data [required for allowance for the use thereof] requiring authorization for use is [inputted] input from a center which permits [the] use of the data in exchange for a charge, [and novel] wherein new data is prepared by utilizing the data thus [inputted] input, comprising:

means for preparing the data;

means for generating information relating to the input data which is to be utilized in the prepared data;

means for appending the generated information to the prepared data;

display means for displaying the prepared data and the input data in the appended condition of the generated information.

13. (AMENDED) The data preparation device as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

judging means for judging whether [or not] there is a license for utilizing data [required for allowance for the use thereof] requiring authorization for use; and

means for [allowing] permitting the input data to be displayed on said display means [in the case] when it is judged that there is the license.

14. (AMENDED) The data preparation device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the balance of the charge is used [as] to pay for the license.

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15. (AMENDED) A data [working] processing device wherein data [required for allowance for the use thereof] requiring authorization for use is [inputted] input from a center which permits the use of the data in exchange for a charge, and [work] processing is applied to the data thus [inputted] input, comprising:

[working] processing means for [working] processing the input data; and

storage means for storing [data of work] process information indicating what kind of [working] processing has been [made] applied by said [working] processing means.

16. (AMENDED) The data [working] processing device as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

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judging means for judging whether [or not] there is a license for utilizing the input data [required for allowance for the use thereof] requiring authorization for use; and

means for [making the working] permitting the processing of the input data [possible in the case] when it is judged that there is the license.

17. (AMENDED) The data [working] processing device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the balance of the charge is used [as] to pay for the license.

New Claims

Please add the following new claims 18 - 21:

18. (NEW) A data protection system for protecting data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use when the data is processed, comprising:

input unit inputting data requiring authorization for use;
processing unit applying processing to the input data to produce generated data; and
forbidding unit preventing the storage of the generated data.

19. (NEW) A method for protecting data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use when the data is processed, comprising:

inputting data requiring authorization for use;
applying processing to the input data to produce generated data; and
preventing the storage of the generated data.

20. (NEW) A data protection system for protecting data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use when the data is processed, comprising:

storage unit storing input data requiring authorization for use;
processing unit applying processing to the input data to produce generated data; and

saving unit storing process information indicating what kind of processing has been applied by said processing means.

21. (NEW) A method for processing data requiring authorization for use, comprising:
inputting data requiring authorization for use from a center which permits the use of the data in exchange for a charge;
processing the input data; and
storing process information indicating what kind of processing has been applied by the processing.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1 - 17 were pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected all claims. By this amendment, claims 1 - 17 have been amended, and new claims 18 - 21 have been added. Thus, claims 1 - 21 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Rejection of Claims 1 - 5, 9, 12, and 15 under 35 USC §103

In item 5, on pages 2 - 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 - 5, 9, 12, and 15 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,392,351 to Hasebe et al (hereinafter "Hasebe #1") in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,761,651 to Hasebe et al. (hereinafter Hasebe #2), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,832,083 to Iwayama et al. As a preliminary matter, the Examiner has referred to Patent No. '083 as being issued to Hasebe et al. While Hasebe is listed as an inventor on the '083 Patent, the Applicants presume the Examiner intended to refer to Iwayama et al. wherever Patent No. '083 is referenced in the Office Action. As a further note, the Applicants note that the Office Action also rejects claims 6 - 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 17 without stating any different grounds of rejection other than those presented for claims 1 - 5, 9, 12, and 15. Therefore, the Applicants presume that the Examiner intended to reject all